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EXAMINER
LE, MIRANDA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2167	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	12/29/2006	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/716,172	DIANA CANTU
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Miranda Le	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>11 October 2006</u>.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.　　　2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-28</u> is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-28</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is responsive to Amendment, filed 10/11/2006.

2.   Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4-9 are independent

claims. In the Amendment, claims 27-28 have been added, and claims 1, 5, 7-14, 18, 20-

21, 23-26 have been amended.   This action is made Final.

The objection to the specification (claim objection) of the invention has been

withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3.   35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of
> matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the
> conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is

directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 1 fails to provide a practical application that produces tangible result, since

merely "converting the received message into a converted message having a format

associated with at least one database associated with the matching reference" does not

able the usefulness to be realized. It is not until the converting (which takes place as a

thought or a computation within a processor) is brought out of the mind or processor that

it becomes more than an abstraction, instead being real-world and enabling the

functionality to be realized. The amended claim fail to recite tangible result, as the

converting step is not tangible.

Claim 14 is a system claim, has the same type of issues as claim 1, therefore, is

rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 2-13 and 15-26 incorporate the deficiencies of claims 1, 14 and do not add

tangibility to the claimed subject matter, they are likewise rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless:

(e) the invention was described in

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States
before the invention by the applicant for patent or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the
invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty
defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application
filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was
published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5.   Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, 14-17, 19, 21, 24-28 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cornelius et al. (US Patent No. 6,684,222).

Cornelius anticipated independent claims 1, 14 by the following:

As per claim 1, Cornelius teaches a method for organizing related

communications in one or more databases comprising:

receiving *(i.e. The received data may be expressed in a hierarchical data*

structure format, such as extensible mark-up language, XML, col. 3, lines 42-44) at least

one XML-based message *(i.e. data message, col. 13, line 28)* from at least one of many,

different communication device *(i.e. The first data processing system 102 and the second*

data processing system 120, col. 2, lines 58-59) (col. 2, line 48 to col. 3 line 6; col. 3,

lines 39-49; col. 13, lines 38-48);

comparing *(i.e. Parsed data includes symbols (e.g., characters) and markup code*

that provides a definition of the storage layout and logical structure of the XML

document, col. 3, lines 49-56) one or more XML tags *(i.e. markup code, col. 3, lines 49-*

56) within the at least one XML-based message to one or more references, wherein each

reference is associated with one or more previous messages *(i.e. the first data processing*

system 102 may initiate a resend of the transactional data, col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line 1)

(col. 3, lines 39 to col. 4, line 9; col. 5, lines 6-34);

selecting a reference *(i.e. the hierarchical data structure, col. 3, lines 57-59)* that

most closely matches one or more of the XML tags *(col. 3, lines 39 to col. 4, line 9);*

converting the received message into a converted message having a format

associated with at least one database associated with the matching reference *(i.e. The*

mapper 106 converts the hierarchical data structure into a table or another generally

tabular data structure for storage in the first relational database 108, col. 3, lines 57-59)

(col. 3, line 57 to col. 4, line 9).

As per claim 14, Cornelius teaches a system for organizing related

communications in one or more databases, the system comprising:

a mediation web server *(i.e. communication network 118, Fig. 1A, col. 2, lines 48-*

67) operable to:

receive *(i.e. The received data may be expressed in a hierarchical data structure*

format, such as extensible mark-up language, XML, col. 3, lines 42-44) at least one

XML-based message *(i.e. data message, col. 13, line 28)* from at least one of many,

different communication device *(i.e. The first data processing system 102 and the second*

data processing system 120, col. 2, lines 58-59) (col. 2, line 48 to col. 3 line 6; col. 3,

lines 39-49; col. 13, lines 38-48);

compare *(i.e. Parsed data includes symbols (e.g., characters) and markup code*

that provides a definition of the storage layout and logical structure of the XML

document, col. 3, lines 49-56) one or more XML tags *(i.e. markup code, col. 3, lines 49-*

56) within the message to one or more references, wherein each reference is associated

with one or more previous messages *(i.e. the first data processing system 102 may initiate*

a resend of the transactional data, col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line 1) (col. 3, lines 39 to col.

4, line 9; col. 5, lines 6-34);

selecting a reference *(i.e. the hierarchical data structure, col. 3, lines 57-59)* that

most closely matches one or more of the XML tags *(col. 3, lines 39 to col. 4, line 9);*

convert the received message into a format associated with at least one database

associated with the matching reference *(i.e. The mapper 106 converts the hierarchical*

data structure into a table or another generally tabular data structure for storage in the

first relational database 108, col. 3, lines 57-59) (col. 3, line 57 to col. 4, line 9).

As to claims 2, 15, Cornelius teaches the received message and a previous

message corresponding to the selected reference are substantially related to one another

(i.e. confirmation of receipt of data previously transmitted, col. 4, line 46 to col. 5, line

5).

   As to claims 3, 16, Cornelius teaches enabling a telecommunications service that

organizes related communications in one or more databases *(i.e. first relational database*

108, second relational database 126, Fig. 1A).

   As to claims 4, 17, Cornelius teaches converting a next message into a same

format as the converted message when the next message has one or more XML tags that

match the XML tags of a previous message *(i.e. converts the hierarchical data structure,*

col. 4, line 57) (col. 3, line 39 to col. 4, line 9); and

   forwarding the next, converted message to a database associated with the

converted message *(i.e. the mapper 106 communicates with a first relational database*

108 to facilitate the storage of data in the first relational database 108 col. 3, lines 12-

27) (col. 3, line 39 to col. 4, line 9).

   As to claims 6, 19, Cornelius teaches selecting an initial database *(i.e. a first*

relational database 108, col. 4, line 48) when no reference most closely matches one or

more of the XML tags of the received message *(col. 4, line 46 to col. 5, line 5);*

   converting the received message into a format corresponding to the selected,

initial database *(i.e. The mapper 106 converts the hierarchical data structure into a table*

or another generally tabular data structure for storage in the first relational database

108, col. 3, lines 57-59) (col. 3, line 39 to col. 4, line 9); and

   forwarding the converted message to the selected, initial database *(i.e. The first*

data processing system 102 may archive data from the first enterprise resource planning

system 100 into a first relational database 108 for subsequent reference, col. 4, line 46 to

col. 5, line 5).

As per claim 8, Cornelius teaches at least one communication devices is at least

one of a voicemail server, a facsimile server, an email server, and a web server *(i.e. the*

communications network 118, col. 13, lines 38-48).

As to claims 9, 21, Cornelius teaches the database format is at least one of Oracle,

Sybase, MySQL, MsQL, and DB2 *(i.e. Structured Query Language, col. 5, lines 41-55).*

As to claims 11, 24, Cornelius teaches the method as in claim 1, further

comprising: forwarding a confirmation *(i.e. confirmation of receipt of data, col. 4, lines*

65-67) message to at least one of a customer agent or a customer *(i.e. a business*

relationship (e.g., customer-supplier relationship) between the first business entity and

the second business entity, col. 3 lines 4-6).

As to claims 12, 25, Cornelius teaches forwarding at least one of voicemail

message, facsimile message, an email message or an Internet message to a customer

agent *(i.e. A data message is transmitted between a first data processing system 102 and*

a second data processing system 120 over the communications network 118, col. 13, lines

38-48).

As to claims 13, 26, Cornelius teaches the at least one XML-based message is received from a customer agent *(i.e. a business relationship (e.g., customer-supplier relationship) between the first business entity and the second business entity, col. 3 lines 4-6) (col. 2, line 48 to col. 3 line 6; col. 3, lines 39-49; col. 13, lines 38-48).*

As to claims 27, 28, Cornelius teaches forwarding the converted message to the associated database (i.e. The first relational database 108 supports storage and retrieval of information in the table or another generally tabular data structure, col. 3, lines 59-62), (col. 3, line 57 to col. 4, line 9).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7.   Claims 5, 7, 10, 18, 20, 22, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cornelius et al. (US Patent No. 6,684,222), in view of Sijacic et al. (US Pub. No. 20020184145).

As to claims 5, 18, Cornelius teaches the at least one received XML-based

message *(i.e. The received data may be expressed in a hierarchical data structure format,*

such as extensible mark-up language, XML, col. 3, lines 42-44; data message, col. 13,

line 28).

Cornelius does not expressly teach a Document Type Definition ("DTD") .

However, Sijacic teaches the at least one received XML-based message comprises

a Document Type Definition ("DTD") in Fig. 4A, 4B, and 4C (FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C

illustrate exemplary XML formats associated with requests, DTDs and response

messages, [0017]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching

of Cornelius and Sijacic at the time the invention was made to modify the system of

Cornelius to include the at least one received XML-based message comprises a

Document Type Definition ("DTD") which substantially takes the form of above as

taught by Sijacic. One of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to make this

combination in order to perform XML based transactions in a business-to-business

electronic invoice presentment and payment environment in view of Sijacic, as doing so

would give the added benefit of enabling efficient and versatile data exchange between a

billing system and its customers as taught by Sijacic ([0019]).

As to claims 7, 20, Cornelius teaches forwarding an XML-based message *(i.e.*

The sender 112 sends a hierarchical data structure (e.g., XML document) from the first

data processing system 102 to the second data processing system 120 via the

communications network 118, col. 3, line 57 to col. 4, line 9; data message, col. 13, line

28) to at least one of the many, different communication devices (i.e. *(i.e. The first data*

processing system 102 and the second data processing system 120, Fig. 1A, col. 2, lines

58-59).

Cornelius does not expressly teach a DTD to the at least one communication

device.

However, Sijacic teaches forwarding an XML-based message comprising a DTD

to the at least one communication device in Fig. 4A, 4B, and 4C (FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C

illustrate exemplary XML formats associated with requests, DTDs and response

messages, [0017]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching

of Cornelius and Sijacic at the time the invention was made to modify the system of

Cornelius to include forwarding an XML-based message comprising a DTD to the at

least one communication device as taught by Sijacic. One of ordinary skill in the art

would be motivated to make this combination in order to perform XML based

transactions in a business-to-business electronic invoice presentment and payment

environment in view of Sijacic, as doing so would give the added benefit of enabling

efficient and versatile data exchange between a billing system and its customers as taught

by Sijacic ([0019]).

As to claims 10, 22, Cornelius teaches forwarding a responsive *(i.e. confirmation*

of receipt of data previously transmitted by the first data processing system 102 to the

second data processing system 120, col. 4, lines 65-67) XML-based message (i.e. The

sender 112 sends a hierarchical data structure (e.g., XML document) from the first data

processing system 102 to the second data processing system 120 via the communications

network 118, col. 3, line 57 to col. 4, line 9; data message, col. 13, line 28) to at least one

of the many, different communication devices *(i.e. The first data processing system 102*

and the second data processing system 120, Fig. 1A, col. 2, lines 58-59) to a mediation

web server *(i.e. communication network 118, Fig. 1A, col. 2, lines 48-67).*

Cornelius does not expressly teach a DTD to a mediation web server.

However, Sijacic teaches forwarding a response XML-based message comprising

a DTD to a mediation web server in Fig. 4A, 4B, and 4C (FIGS. 4A, 4B and 4C illustrate

exemplary XML formats associated with requests, DTDs and response messages,

[0017]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill of the art having the teaching

of Cornelius and Sijacic at the time the invention was made to modify the system of

Cornelius to include forwarding a response XML-based message comprising a DTD to a

mediation web server as taught by Sijacic. One of ordinary skill in the art would be

motivated to make this combination in order to perform XML based transactions in a

business-to-business electronic invoice presentment and payment environment in view of

Sijacic, as doing so would give the added benefit of enabling efficient and versatile data

exchange between a billing system and its customers as taught by Sijacic ([0019]).

As per claim 23, Cornelius teaches the communication control device is at least

one of a voicemail server, a facsimile server, an email server, or a web server *(i.e. A data*

message is transmitted between a first data processing system 102 and a second data

processing system 120 over the communications network 118, col. 13, lines 38-48).

Response to Arguments

8.   Applicant's arguments filed 03/10/2003 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

Applicant argues that:

(a) Cornelius does not teach comparing one or more XML tags within at least one

XML-base message to one or more references, wherein each references is associated with

one or more previous messages.

(b) Applicants question how resending messages describes or suggests comparing

one or more XML tags within at least one XML-based message to one or more

references, wherein each reference is associated with one or more previous messages.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees for the following reasons:

Per (a), Cornelius does teach comparing one or more XML tags within at least

one XML-base message to one or more references, wherein each references is associated

with one or more previous messages.

As shown in Fig. 2 and in col. 7, lines 1-59, Cornelius teaches the following steps:

S12:   receiving the XML file (XML-based message in claim 1).

S14:   determining the data attributes (i.e. references in claim 1) associated with

elements (i.e. XML tags in claim 1).

S16:   the mapper (i.e. comparing) stores the determined data attributes (i.e.

references in claim 1) in the table of the databases.

It should be noted that the step of comparing of claim 1 corresponds to the step of

matching of data attributes as taught by Cornelius.

Per (b), in response to applicants' argument regarding how resending messages

describes or suggests comparing one or more XML tags within at least one XML-based

message to one or more references, wherein each reference is associated with one or

more previous messages), it is brought to applicant's intention that as detailed in page 3

of Office Action, Cornelius teaches the step of:

comparing *(i.e. **Parsed** data includes symbols (e.g., characters) and markup code*

that provides a definition of the storage layout and logical structure of the XML·

document, col. 3, lines 49-56) one or more XML tags *(i.e. markup code, col. 3, lines 49-*

56) within the at least one XML-based message to one or more references, wherein each

reference is associated with one or more **previous messages** *(i.e. the first data processing*

*system 102 may initiate **a resend of the transactional data**, col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line*

1) (col. 3, lines 39 to col. 4, line 9; col. 5, lines 6-34).

Note that:

a)   The step of __comparing__ of claim 1 equates to the step of __parsing__ of Cornelius.

b)   And, each reference is associated with one or more. "__previous message of__

__claim 11__" equates to "a resend of the transaction data" of Cornelius.

It is noted that Cornelius teaches the step of resending the transaction data as "if

the first data processing system 102 does not receive an acknowledgement or

confirmation of receipt of data previously transmitted by the first data processing system

102 to the second data processing system 120, the first data processing system 102 may

initiate a resend of the transactional data (e.g., miscommunicated or lost data). *The*

applicable information is retrieved from the first relational database 108, as opposed to

the first enterprise resource planning system 100, and transmitted to the second data

processing system 120 (col. 4, line 46 to col. 5, line 5).

It should be noted that the step of resending of Cornelius including the step of

retrieving the applicable information in the database, which is equivalent to searching,

comparing in order to retrieve the applicable information (previous information relating

to the previous message has been already stored in the database).

Moreover, the invention of Cornelius is analogous to the applicant's as providing

database including entities for storing XML file, or XML message in order to recover lost

message. Pursuant to the Specification, paragraph [0003], the instant application is

directed to methods and systems which provide a company or another *entity* the ability to

organize related, customer communications in a way that *reduces the chances that these*

communications will be lost or erased, and makes such communications easily accessible

to a customer agent or the like responsible for responding to, or processing, customer

transactions. Similarly, Cornelius discloses that "the first relational database 108 and the

second relational database 126 support *recovery of transactional data*, should

communications fail or be interrupted between the first business *entity* and the second

business entity via the communications network 118. For example, if the first data

processing system 102 does not receive an acknowledgement or confirmation of receipt

of data previously transmitted by the first data processing system 102 to the second data

processing system 120, the first data processing system 102 may initiate *a resend of the*

transactional data (e.g., miscommunicated or lost data). The applicable information is

retrieved from the first relational database 108, as opposed to the first enterprise resource

planning system 100, and transmitted to the second data processing system 120 (col. 4,

line 46 to col. 5, line 5).

Furthermore, Cornelius teaches a method for organizing the XML file as

describing the following steps (See Fig. 2 and col. 7, line 1-59).

S12:   receiving the XML file (XML-based message in claim 1).

S14:   determining the data attributes (i.e. references in claim 1) associated with

elements (i.e. XML tags in claim 1).

S16:   the mapper (i.e. comparing) stores the determined data attributes (i.e.

references in claim 1) in the table of the databases.

It is noted that "each references is associated with one or more previous

messages" of claim 1 equates to "attributes in the tables" of Cornelius. It also is noted

that attributes (references in claim 1) already stored in the table are attributes of the

previous message (one or more references, wherein each reference is associated with one

or more previous messages of claim 1).

For Applicants' reference, these following paragraphs herein below further

described how the claims read on Cornelius's invention.

Once the receiver 104 receives the hierarchical textual file (e.g., an XML file) for translation,

the mapper 106 or translator preferably translates the hierarchical textual file starting from a beginning of

the hierarchical textual file and proceeding toward an end of the hierarchical textual file in sequential

order. The mapper 106 parses the data in the hierarchical textual file as necessary to fill entries in the

table 72 or another generally tabular data structure (col. 7, lines 1-9).

In step S14, the data processing system (102 or 120) determines the data attributes associated with

corresponding structured data elements of the received hierarchical textual file. To this end, the data

processing system (102 or 120) reads the data elements of the accepted hierarchical textual file on an

element-by-element basis to determine the values for filling the data attribute fields of particular data

elements. After or during the reading, the data processing system 12 determines relationships or

affiliations between data attributes and each corresponding data element. The data attributes include

hierarchical relationship data (e.g., node identifier and parent node identifier) for defining a hierarchical

data structure among or between different data elements. The data processing system (102 or 120) stops

reading the hierarchical file once all structured data elements (e.g., entities) within the hierarchical textual

file have been evaluated. Further, data values of the characteristics of the structured data elements are

determined and classified into appropriate data attributes. In the context of handling a group of XML

documents, step S14 represents a recursive process where an XML document hierarchy is looped through

and structured data elements from each XML document are entered in one at a time into one or more

tables 72. The table 72 is populated with entries (e.g., data attributes) until an entire hierarchical file is

represented by one or more full tables (col. 7, lines 9-35).

In step S16, the data processing system (102 or 120) stores the data entries (e.g., data entries 66

in FIG. 5) or data values for the determined data attributes and corresponding data elements in the table

72 of the first relational database 108 or the second relational database 126. For example, the mapper

106 may store the determined data attributes in the data attribute fields 68 for the applicable data

elements to build the table 72 or another generally tabular data structure. A data entry 66 may be placed

at an intersection (e.g., a cell at the intersection of a column and a row) of a data attribute field 68 and a

data element field 70 in the table 72. In one embodiment, the mapper 106 may store the data attributes of

different data elements on a row-by-row basis in the table 72 (col. 7, lines 35-59).

The knowledge that is within the level of one of ordinary skill is highlighted

hereinabove for the Applicant's convenience. The Examiner believes that the Applicants

have failed to determine the level of ordinary skill as taught by Cornelius.

Therefore, the claim language as presented is still read on by the Cornelius

reference at the cited paragraph in the claim rejections.

Accordingly, the claimed invention as represented in the claims does not represent

a patentable over the art of record.

Conclusion

9.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Miranda Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-4112.
The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00
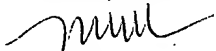PM.
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, John R. Cottingham, can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax number to
this Art Unit is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should
be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for
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information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Miranda Le
December 22, 2006

JOHN COTTINGHAM
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